

## REMARKS

Examination of the subject application in light of the present Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Examination of the subject patent application in light of the present Amendment and Remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 21-106 have been canceled by this amendment.

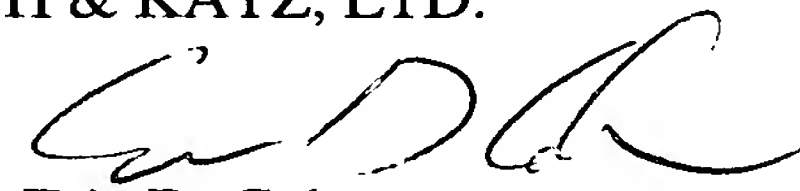
Applicant respectfully requests entry of this preliminary amendment prior to action on the merits, and requests early allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By



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